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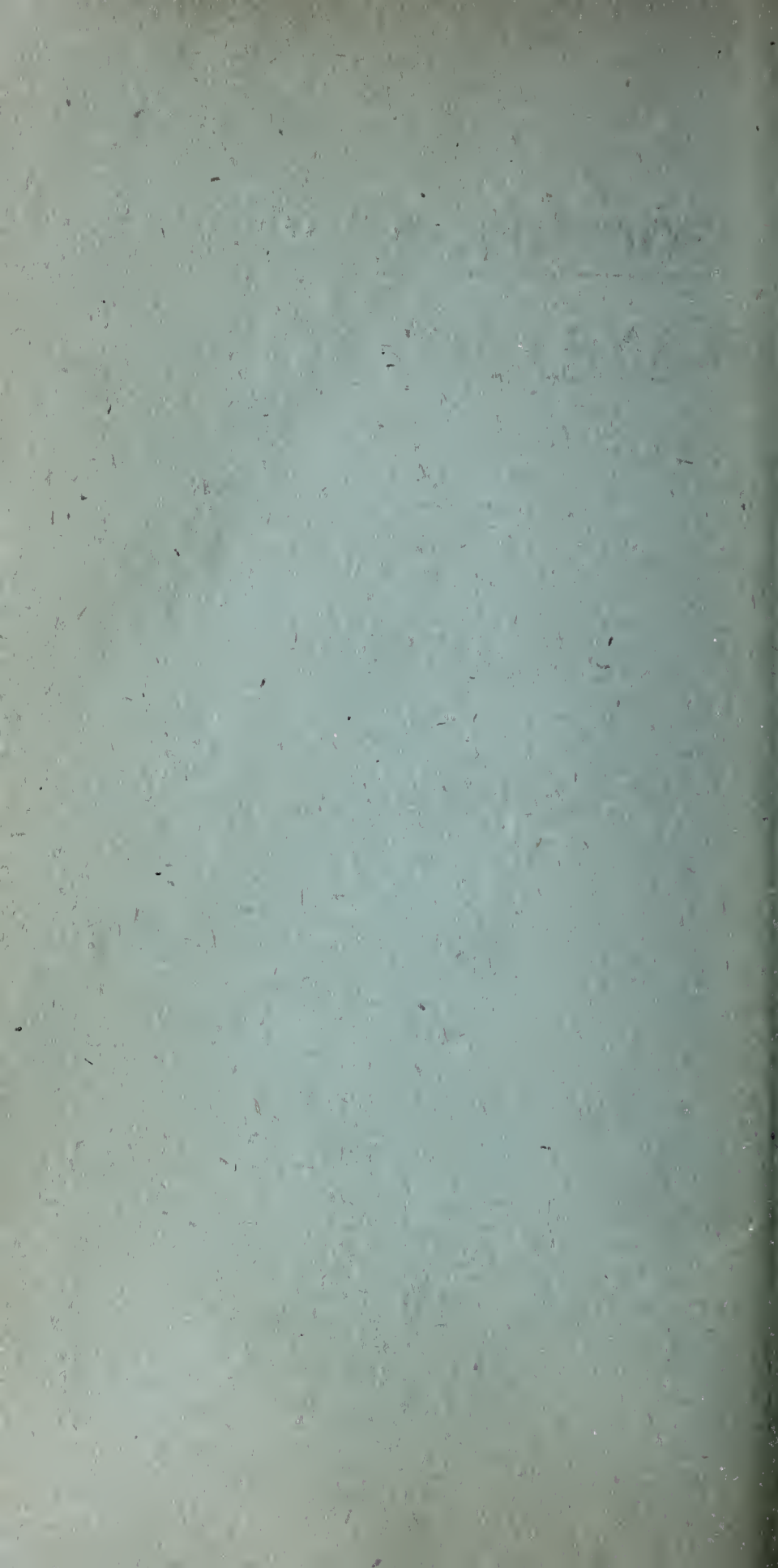
SOUTHERN RHODE
ISLAND FARM BUREAU

CONSTITUTION

ADOPTED JULY 22,

1915

PROVIDENCE, R. I.
E. L. FREEMAN COMPANY, PRINTERS.
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ARTICLE I.

NAME.

This Association shall be known as the Southern Rhode Island Farm Bureau.

ARTICLE II.

OBJECTS.

SECTION 1. The objects of this Association are to develop the agricultural resources and to foster the best social and material interests of the district.

SEC. 2. It shall be one of the principal duties of this Association to hire and assist in every way possible a district agricultural agent.

SEC. 3. It shall be the duty of the district agricultural agent to coöperate with the members of this Association and other citizens of the district to determine under actual farm conditions the best agricultural practice for the districts, and to acquire from the United States Department of Agriculture, the various agricultural experiment station, and especially the Rhode Island State College, Experiment Station and Extension Service, such agricultural information as shall be of most service to the farmers of this district.

SEC. 4. It shall be the duty of the district agent to disseminate this agricultural information throughout the district, especially by means of demonstrations under actual farm conditions and in coöpera-

tion with the members of this bureau of the most approved methods of farm management and farm practice available to the organization.

SEC. 5. It shall be a further object of this Association to aid in the organization and directing of the agriculture of the district in so far as this may be desirable and possible. For the accomplishment of this end the farm bureau shall coöperate with the State Board of Agriculture and other State organizations, and with the agricultural societies, improvement societies, granges, and other local organizations.

SEC. 6. It shall be a further object of this Association to assist in providing a better system of farm finances to improve the marketing conditions of the district, to warn the farmers against fraud, and in general to promote all matters relating to agricultural and civic welfare which are for the good of the district.

ARTICLE III.

MEMBERSHIP.

SECTION 1. Membership in this farm bureau shall consist of residents or property owners of this district, comprising Washington and Kent Counties, who shall subscribe to the provisions of the constitution and pay the membership fee of fifty cents and annual dues of fifty cents thereafter at the time of each annual meeting.

MEMBERSHIP PRIVILEGES.

SECTION 1. The members of this Association are entitled to participate in any meetings of the organization, and are entitled to vote on any question of business brought before the Association.

SEC. 2. Members of this Association are entitled to receive all publications of the bureau and are to be enrolled on the mailing list to receive all bulletin published by the Extension Service of the Rhode Island State College.

SEC. 3. Members of this Association are entitled to any reasonable service within the scope of the bureau which can be rendered by the bureau or any of its members or agents.

ARTICLE V.

OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES.

SECTION 1. The officers of this Association shall be a President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and a Vice-President for each town in the district. All the officers shall be members of the Association and in good standing.

SEC. 2. The officers of the Association shall hereafter be elected at the regular annual meeting of the Association to serve for one year.

SEC. 3. The duties of the officers of this farm bureau shall be such as shall pertain to their respective offices except as provided for by State law or in the constitution and by-laws.

SEC. 4. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to give notice of all meetings of the Association and of the directors, to keep on file copies of all contracts executed, to report same at the regular annual meeting of the Association, and to send copies of such contracts and proceedings to the State Leader of County Agent Work, and on request to furnish the said State Leader of County Agent Work and the district agent with a revised list of members with their post-office addresses; also to provide Treasurer with necessary financial records.

SEC. 5. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive and disburse all moneys of the Association, to keep accurate accounts of all business transactions of the Association; to sign in behalf of the Association all commercial paper, subject to such conditions as may be specified by the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall pay no bills until approved by the majority of the executive committee.

ARTICLE VI.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

SECTION 1. The officers of this Association shall constitute a Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall, subject to the direction of this Association, have the general management of the affairs of the Association and the control of its business, and shall determine its financial policy. They are empowered to transact any business necessary to the work of this bureau and to execute all necessary contracts.

SEC. 2. The Board of Directors shall meet twice a year and shall have special meetings at the call of the President.

ARTICLE VII.

COMMITTEES.

SECTION 1. There shall be an executive committee consisting of the President, Secretary, Treasurer and four other members chosen by the Board of Directors. The executive committee shall, except as limited by the Board of Directors, have and exercise all the powers of the Board of Directors and may authorize all such contracts, agreements, papers and documents as may be required in the conduct of the business.

SEC. 2. The executive committee shall hold regular monthly meetings to audit accounts, and to discuss, plan and direct in council with the district agent, the demonstration work of the county. The time and place of the meeting shall be determined by the executive committee. Special meetings of the executive committee may be called by the President. Four members shall constitute a quorum for doing business.

SEC. 3. The Board of Directors may appoint such other committees as may be found necessary.

SEC. 4. All vacancies which may occur among the officers of this Association or in the Board of Directors shall be filled by appointment by the executive committee, such appointment to hold until the next regular annual meeting.

ARTICLE VIII.

ADVISORY COUNCIL.

SECTION 1. The district agent shall select a member of this bureau from each of as many of the several communities as he shall choose, these persons when approved by the executive committee, to constitute an advisory council.

SEC. 2. It shall be the duty of the individual members of the advisory council to furnish the farm bureau from time to time with information regarding the agricultural conditions and problems of his or her neighborhood, and with suggestions for the good of the bureau, and to advise and assist in the arrangements for meetings, demonstrations, lectures, or other activities of the bureau with a view to secure the best possible service of the bureau for his or her community.

ARTICLE IX.

DISTRICT AGENT.

SECTION 1. The appointment of the district agent and the direction of his work shall rest with the executive committee of the farm bureau, subject to the approval of the Directors of the Extension Service of the Rhode Island State College and the State Leader of County Agent Work.

ARTICLE X.

MEETINGS.

SECTION 1. The Association shall hold a regular annual meeting on the fourth Thursday in October, at a time and place designated by the executive committee. Special meetings may be called at any time by the President, by the executive committee or at the request of fifteen members of the bureau.

SEC. 2. The order of business shall be as follows:

1. Reading of minutes of previous meeting.
 2. Reports of committees.
 3. Report and recommendations by district agent.
 4. Suggestions for improving the methods of work.
 5. Bills and accounts.
 6. Treasurer's report.
 7. General business.
 8. Annual report of officers.
 9. Annual election of officers.
 10. Adjournment.
- } For annual
meetings only.

ARTICLE XI.

QUORUM.

SECTION 1. At least fifteen members shall be required for a quorum at all meetings of the Association.

SEC. 2. Seven members shall be required to constitute a quorum at all meetings of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XII.

AMENDMENTS.

This constitution shall be effective when adopted by a public meeting of residents and property holders of the district.

This constitution may be amended at any regular business meeting by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided one week's notice of the proposed amendment is given.